

in social work from Hunter College, and a doctorate in social welfare policy from Columbia University.

She leaves with a trail of notable achievements to her name and legacy, and she is well-poised, prepared, and positioned for her next endeavor.

FISA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 20, 2008

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of 6304, Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Amendments Act of 2008.

This bill gives the intelligence community the tools it needs to keep America safe from terrorists, and at the same time protects the constitutional rights of all Americans. The FISA Amendments Act is a balanced bill that is tough on terrorists while also protecting the rights of Americans and increasing oversight of U.S. intelligence activities. H.R. 6304 allows the intelligence community to conduct foreign electronic surveillance for the purpose of defending against terrorism and national security without the need for individual court orders.

But in situations where these investigations would involve surveillance of American citizens, the Courts will have the oversight to review and approve the surveillance to ensure constitutional rights are upheld. We must remember that the United States has enemies abroad who wish to do us harm.

Under this bill, Americans will have stronger protections of their constitutional freedoms than the current foreign surveillance policy allows, and at the same time, the intelligence needed to protect our country will not be compromised. The legislation protects American civil liberties and upholds constitutional values by clarifying that FISA and Title III of the criminal code are the exclusive means by which the government may conduct surveillance on U.S. soil. This will prevent any President from using executive power to conduct warrantless domestic surveillance.

The legislation also clarifies that to conduct surveillance of a person in the United States, the government must first obtain an individual warrant from the FISA Court based on probable cause. H.R. 6304 ensures compliance measures, but not automatic immunity, for private-sector companies that allegedly participated in anti-terrorism surveillance programs. Federal district courts will be allowed to determine whether substantial evidence supports civil liability protection for companies which assisted in post-9/11 activities.

The bill also ensures liability protections for companies which provide lawful assistance to the government in the future. This is good legislation that reaches the necessary balance between keeping the American people safe and protecting our civil rights.

We will have greater oversight of our nation's surveillance programs, while at the same time encouraging greater compliance with our private sector partners in the ultimate goal of keeping America and her people secure. Please vote in support of H.R. 6304.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAPTAIN EVELYN DECKER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to pay tribute to one of America's heroes, Captain Evelyn Decker. Captain Decker recently passed away on Friday, April 25, 2008, at the Northport Veterans Medical Center in Northport, New York. Captain Decker was one of the first African American nurses accepted to serve in the armed forces' Army Nurse Corps during the Korean War. She served with distinction for 13 years, in World War II and the Korean War, receiving the following medals and citation: American Campaign Medal; National Defense Medal; Korean Service Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars; United Nations Service Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Army of Occupation Medal with Japan and Germany clasp; Service Lapel Button WWII; and Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

Specifically, Captain Evelyn Decker belonged to the 38th Parallel Medical Society of Korea, and served as a nurse in the 8055 MASH unit. Nurses were on the front lines facing danger day and night, and Captain Decker was no exception, having been stationed on the front lines for months longer than normal tours of duty called for. During this time, she helped to save many lives and provided incalculable comfort to countless American soldiers. In addition, she did this as an African American woman serving in a segregated military. I know from my Korean War service that nurses valiantly went into harm's way in order to provide medical care for wounded American soldiers.

Aware that her war duty had compromised her health, making it impossible for her to serve to the standards she wished, Captain Decker left the army. It was many years before she would receive a 100 percent service-connected disability rating for lung disease caused by her tour of duty in Korea. Furthermore, it would take a full 50 years after her leaving the service before Captain Decker, at the age of 92, would finally be presented with her captain's bars and the several medals to which she was entitled.

During all this time, Captain Decker continued to participate in military-related activities, up to and including the current events surrounding the commemoration of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial. Though frail and wheelchair-bound in recent years, Captain Decker felt it was important to stay involved and ensure that young people understood the contributions and sacrifices made by so many of all races and genders for our country.

CALALLEN HIGH SCHOOL
WILDCATS BASEBALL TEAM

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2008

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Calallen High School Wild-

cats for winning the 2008 Texas State 4A Baseball Championship.

The Wildcats' title marked their third of this decade. Calallen culminated their impressive run with a win over the Waxahachie Indians 11-1, a margin so large that the game ended in the fifth inning due to a ten run mercy rule. Catcher Patrick Frasier was named MVP, after going two for three with four RBI and two runs.

This win, however, represents the efforts of the entire team, which was made up of Matt Garza, Derek Hagy, Aaron Alaniz, Logan Verrett, Jeramie Marek, Bryden McClure, Brett Bell, Jake Huddleston, Kris Guerrero, Dustin Vaughan, Hunter Whetsel, Skyler Hoelscher, Patrick Frasier, Dustin Marrou, Travis Neslony, Will Reynolds, Tyler Denman, Roland Resendez, Jordan John, Dillon Denman, Chad Vanaman, Parker Dorsey, Collin Simpson, Adam Hoelscher, Richard Montemayor, Nick Ginn, Rick Salazar, and Robert Zastrzynski, as well as Head Coach Steve Chapman and Assistant Coaches Joe Luis Lopez and Rudy Salinas.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Coach Chapman and the team, as well as the parents, teachers, and student boosters who worked so hard to propel their team to a historic season.

I especially want to congratulate the seniors on their graduation and best wishes on their future plans.

Playing for a high school team is always a rewarding experience—one that provides enduring lessons in teamwork and responsibility. These student athletes will carry the lessons they learned, both on the diamond and in the classroom, for the rest of their lives.

H.R. 3403, THE NEW AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES 911 IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2008

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 2008

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3403, the New and Emerging Technologies 911 Improvement Act of 2008.

This legislation ensures that consumers using Voice over Internet Protocol technology, or VoIP, can make full use of the 911 system in two important ways. First, the legislation extends the same liability protections afforded to wireline and wireless carriers, public safety, and end users to VoIP service. This parity in liability protections will encourage service providers, public safety, and end users to continue to rely on the 911 emergency communications system, regardless of the technology used to make a 911 call. Second, the legislation ensures that VoIP providers can interconnect with legacy telephone networks so they can deliver calls and information to 911 call centers.

Representative GORDON, the author of H.R. 3403, Representative MARKEY, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, Representative BARTON, Ranking Member of the Committee, Representatives UPTON and STEARNS, the former and current Ranking Members of the Subcommittee, and I worked very closely with all stakeholders on this legislation, and it has widespread support among the public safety community, industry, and others.